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3-1990

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### NOTES

MISSISSIPPI KITE I saw a  
Mississippi Kite along I-80, near the  
Gibbon exit, 29 September 1989.  
--- *Ruth C. Green, 506 W. 31st Ave.,  
Bellevue, NE 68005*

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION EAGLE SURVEY** In the 1990 Eagle Survey a total of 857 Bald Eagles were observed in Nebraska, 211 along the Missouri River, and 646 in the rest of the state. This count is 259 less than the record high of 1,116 observed in 1989, and 103 less than the average of 960 birds for 1987-1989. The Missouri River count is nearly identical to the 1989 figure and to the three year average. Possibly the cold snap in late December

prompted some Eagles to overfly Nebraska in search of less hostile wintering conditions. The Harlan Co. Reservoir area was down 75 birds from the past three year average, the Sutherland Reservoir area was down 20, and the Platte River from Darr to Elm Creek was down 30.

| Sites            | No | Bald |     |    | Gold |    |  | To-<br>tal |
|------------------|----|------|-----|----|------|----|--|------------|
|                  |    | Ad   | Im  | ?  | Ad   | Im |  |            |
| North Pl. River  | 6  | 98   | 61  | 1  | 8    | 2  |  | 170        |
| Platte River     | 9  | 143  | 91  | 5  | -    | -  |  | 239        |
| South Pl. River  | 1  | 10   | 5   | -  | -    | -  |  | 15         |
| Republican       | 3  | 13   | 21  | -  | -    | -  |  | 34         |
| Middle Loup      | 2  | 12   | 1   | -  | 1    | -  |  | 14         |
| N. Loup River    | 1  | 11   | 1   | -  | -    | -  |  | 12         |
| Loup River       | 1  | 24   | 2   | 1  | -    | -  |  | 27         |
| Snake River      | 1  | 3    | 1   | -  | -    | -  |  | 4          |
| Niobrara         | 5  | 45   | 10  | *1 | 2    | 1  |  | 61         |
| Dawes/Sioux      | 5  | 1    | 2   | -  | 4    | 1  |  | 8          |
| Box Butte        | 1  | -    | -   | -  | 1    | -  |  | 1          |
| Jail House Rock  | 1  | -    | -   | -  | 1    | -  |  | 1          |
| Duel             | 1  | -    | -   | -  | 1    | -  |  | 1          |
| W. Cherry Co.    | 3  | 7    | 1   | -  | 4    | 2  |  | 14         |
| Dismal River     | 2  | 3    | 1   | -  | -    | -  |  | 4          |
| Rock/Brown       | 2  | 3    | 1   | -  | 1    | -  |  | 5          |
| Middle Loup      | 3  | 3    | 1   | -  | 1    | 1  |  | 6          |
| Wheeler/Boone    | 2  | 9    | 1   | -  | 3    | -  |  | 13         |
| Cuming/Dodge     | 2  | 3    | -   | -  | -    | -  |  | 3          |
| Phelps           | 1  | 1    | -   | -  | -    | -  |  | 1          |
| Furnas/Harlan    | 2  | 1    | 1   | -  | -    | -  |  | 2          |
| Red Willow       | 3  | 7    | 2   | -  | -    | -  |  | 9          |
| Dundy            | 2  | 1    | -   | -  | -    | 3  |  | 4          |
| Enders/Frenchman | 2  | 4    | 7   | -  | -    | -  |  | 11         |
| Sutherland Res   | 1  | 14   | 13  | -  | -    | -  |  | 28         |
| Sub-total        | 62 | 416  | 223 | *8 | 27   | 10 |  | 691        |
| Above Sioux City | 1  | 69   | 24  | -  | 2    | -  |  | 95         |
| Sioux City/Omaha | 1  | 46   | 6   | -  | -    | -  |  | 52         |
| Omaha/Neb. City  | 1  | 9    | 7   | 1  | -    | -  |  | 17         |
| Neb. City/Rulo   | 1  | 33   | 16  | -  | -    | -  |  | 49         |
| Missouri River   | 4  | 157  | 53  | 1  | 2    | -  |  | 213        |
| Total            | 66 | 573  | 276 | *9 | 29   | 10 |  | 884        |

**LATE BOBWHITES** On 7 October 1989, while I was putting up my banding nets near the Administration Building at Halsey 4-H Camp, I flushed a family of Bobwhites. The young (about 8 or 10) appeared to be no more than a week old. This seemed to be a very late hatching.

— *Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, NE 68005*

#### **WHOOPING CRANE REPORT**

The Grand Island office of the Fish and Wildlife Service reported 5 confirmed sightings of Whooping Cranes in Nebraska in the fall of 1989, 6 probable sightings, and 5 unconfirmed sightings. Confirmed sightings are:

Four adults, Hall Co., 13-14 October, Platte River, 2.5 mi. w. of Wood River bridge, T9N, R12W, S23, 25, 27.

Two adults and one young, Sherman Co., 29-30 October, 2 mi. w. and 1 s. of Rockville.

Three adults and one young, Howard Co., 31 October, Middle Loup River, 2 mi. s. of Dannebrog, T13N, R11W, S22, SE ¼, S23, NW ¼, flying.

One adult, Hitchcock Co., 31 October, 3 mi. s. and 4 mi. e. of Stratton, T2N, R34W, S33, NE ¼. Found dead in field near a power line.

Two adults, Hall Co., 4 November, Platte River, 2 mi. e. of Alda bridge T9N, R10W, S4, NW ¼, and 2 mi. w. of Alda bridge, T9N, R11W, S4, NW ¼.

Probable sightings are:

Two adults, Rock Co., 8 October, 23 mi. s. and 9 mi. e. of Bassett, T26N, R18W, S1.

Two adults, Blaine Co., 28 October, 5 mi. e. of Brewster, on North Loup River.

Three adults, Hamilton Co., 29 October, 6 mi. n. and 1 mi. e. of Hampton, flying, highly probable.

Three adults, Brown/Cherry Co. line, 30 October, Niobrara River.

Two adults, Brown Co., 30 October, 14 mi. s. and 6 mi. e. of Ainsworth, flying.

Two adults and one young, Buffalo Co., 7 November, 2 mi. s. and 1 mi. w. of Riverdale, highly probable.

The unconfirmed sightings are:

Two adults, Cherry Co., 26 September, School House Marsh.

One adult, Clay Co., 5 October, along Hwy. 6, 1-1.5 mi. w. of Harvard Spur.

Two adults and one young, Merrick Co., 25 October, Platte River, Hwy. 92 bridge.

One adult, Keya Paha Co., 28 October, 6 mi. s. and 1.5 mi. w. of Springview, flying over the Niobrara River.

Fourteen adults, Buffalo Co., 2 November, 3 mi. NE of Gibbon, flying.

The Service reported that from the fall of 1975 to the spring of 1989 Nebraska reported the greatest number of sightings in the US (68 out of 203) in the spring, is fourth in the fall (54 of 314), but is still first overall (122 of 517). *Grus Americana*, 29:1:1, reports that the total number of Whooping Cranes at the end of 1989 was 214, 146 in the Arkansas/Wood Buffalo flock,

13 in the experimental Rocky Mountain flock, 32 at Patuxent, 22 at International Crane Foundation at Baraboo, and 1 at the San Antonio Zoo.

Confirmed, probable, and unconfirmed sightings are defined in *NBR* 56:79.